



City of New Bedford
Scott W. Lang, Mayor

City of New Bedford
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Date: October 12, 2007
For Immediate Release

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. Speaks in New Bedford to Launch “Bioneers by the Bay” Conference

New Bedford, Massachusetts - Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., one of the nation’s most stirring advocates for protection of the environment and social change, will be the keynote speaker for a special kickoff event hosted by the City of New Bedford on Thursday, October 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Zeiterion Theatre, to launch the third annual Bioneers by the Bay: Connecting for Change conference. New Bedford Mayor Scott W. Lang will welcome Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. to the city and will speak about the importance of addressing environmental and conservation issues at the local level.

The internationally acclaimed environmental conference presented by the Marion Institute October 19-21 at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth features talks by prominent activists and authors along with workshops, a program for high school and college students, exhibits by sustainable businesses and organizations, films, music, a farmers’ market with local and organic food, and art.

Over 2,000 participants—including students, teachers, green business innovators, scientists, and local grassroots leaders—will share their experience and vision in environmental causes such as clean water and energy, health, and social justice with nationally acclaimed speakers.

Kennedy, a lifelong champion of conservation and environmental business practices, serves as a chief prosecuting attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper organization and president of Waterkeeper Alliance. He was named one of *TIME* magazine’s “Heroes for the Planet” for his success in helping Riverkeeper lead the fight to restore the Hudson River. The group’s achievement helped spawn more than 130 Waterkeeper organizations around the globe.

A clinical professor and supervising attorney at Pace University School of Law's Environmental Litigation Clinic, Kennedy also co-hosts *Ring of Fire* on *Air America Radio*. He has authored several books, including the *New York Times*'s bestseller, *Crimes Against Nature*.

Kennedy's talk is free and open to the public, with limited seating available on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information about the talk or to register for the conference, visit www.connectingforchange.org or call the Marion Institute at 508-748-0816.

About Bioneers: "biological pioneers"

A national, nonprofit organization, Bioneers was founded in 1990 on the West Coast by Kenny Ausubel—a social entrepreneur, author, and filmmaker—to promote practical environmental solutions and innovative social strategies for restoring the Earth and communities. Ausubel most recently served as an advisor to and appears in Leonardo DiCaprio's feature documentary, *The Eleventh Hour*.

The Marion Institute, based in Marion, Mass., is the Northeast host for this year's Bioneers program, in partnership with the City of New Bedford, UMASS Dartmouth, and other sponsors. The institute's worldwide programs support efforts to enhance life and a sustainable future for the Earth and its inhabitants.

For more information about the Marion Institute, visit www.marioninstitute.org.

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